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Bord Oideachais agus Oiliúna an Longfoirt agus na hIarmhí
Longford and Westmeath Education and Training Board

LWETB Meeting – 19th May 2026

Minutes of LWETB Board Meeting	
Date:	Tuesday, 19th May 2026
Time:	6.00 p.m.
Venue:	College of Further Education, Connolly Campus, Battery Road, Longford

Attendance

(Present: P, Apologies: AP, Absent: AB)

Board Member		Board Member	
Ms. Olivia Callaghan	**P**	Cllr. Michael Dollard	**AP**
Ms. Joanne Cosgrove	**AP**	Cllr. Niall Gannon	**P**
Mr. Luke Casserly	**AP**	Cllr. Ken Glynn	**AP**
Mr. Donie Cassidy	**P**	Mr. Colm Harte	**P**
Mr. Owen Catterall	**P**	Cllr. Frankie Keena	**AP**
Ms. Sheila Corcoran	**P**	Cllr. Denis Leonard	**P**
Ms. Shauna Coyne	**AP**	Cllr. Padraig McNamara	**P**
Cllr Aoife Davitt	**P**	Mr. Mark Murphy	**P**
Cllr. Alfie Devine	**P**	Cllr. Peggy Nolan	**AP**
Cllr. John Dolan	**P**	Cllr. Pat O'Toole	**P**

Also Present:			
Ms. Siobhán Lynch, Chief Executive	**P**	Director of SYM – Post Vacant	
Mr. Charlie Mitchell, Director of OSD	**P**	Ms. Gabrielle Gilligan, Clerical Officer	**P**
Ms. Antonine Healy, Director of FET	**P**		

1. Preliminary

Chairperson, Cllr. Aoife Davitt, opened the meeting by welcoming everyone present.

1.1 Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form

The Chairperson invited members to disclose any conflict of interest they might have. No conflict of interest was declared.

1.2 Apologies / condolences / congratulations

Apologies

- Cllr. Ken Glynn
- Mr. Luke Casserly
- Ms. Joanne Cosgrove
- Cllr. Mick Dollard
- Ms. Shauna Coyne
- Cllr. Frankie Keena
- Cllr. Peggy Nolan.

[redacted]

- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]

Congratulations:

- Westmeath Ladies Intermediate team, winners of the Leinster Intermediate Football Championship on Saturday 16th May 2026.
- Westmeath Senior team, winners of the Leinster Senior Football Championship on Sunday 17th May 2026.

1.3 Adoption of Minutes of Meeting dated 24th March 2026

Proposed: Cllr. Niall Gannon. **Seconded:** Mr. Colm Harte.

1.4 Matters arising from Minutes

No matters arising

2. Information and Communication

2.1 Summary of Correspondence

None for this meeting.

3. Committee Reports

3.1 Audit & Risk Committee

None for this Meeting.

3.1.2 Risk Advisory

None for this meeting.

3.2 Finance Committee

Annual Report to LWETB Board by LWETB Finance Committee.

Noted by the Board.

3.3 Youth Work Committee:

None for this meeting.

3.4 Boards of Management and DEY Inspectorate Reports:

Boards of Management Meetings:

- **Athlone Community College** - Minutes of meeting dated 14th January 2026.

Noted by the Board.

DEY Inspectorate Reports:

- **Columba College, Killucan** – Follow-through inspection on progress since Whole School Evaluation, December 2023
- **Ballymahon Vocational School** – Final Report – Evaluation of learning and planning for improvement - DEIS, April 2026.

Noted by the Board.

4. Policies

4.1 Standing Orders

- Standing Orders 1.1 LWETB Board Meeting Time

Proposed change of meeting time from 6.00pm to 6.30pm

Proposed: Cllr. Denis Leonard. **Seconded:** Cllr. Aoife Davitt.

4.1 LWETB Policies

None for this meeting.

5. Governance and Publications

5.1 Circular Letters

Chief Executive drew members attention to the Circular Letters.

Noted by the Board

5.2 Amendment to Service Plan 2026

The amendments, requested by the Department of Education and Youth, to Service Plan 2026, regarding the Child Protection Procedure for Schools and the Schools Completion Programme were outlined to the meeting.

Proposed: Cllr. Pat O'Toole. **Seconded:** Cllr. Niall Gannon.

5.3 LWETB Property

Director, Organisation, Support and Development (DOSD) requested the Boards approval, if the opportunity presents over the summer, to proceed with the purchase/disposal of land around Longford where there is a nil financial cost.

Proposed: Cllr. Niall Gannon. **Seconded:** Cllr. Denis Leonard.

6. Chief Executives Report

6.1 Chief Executives Report

DFET Update

Noted by the Board.

DOSD Finance Report

Noted by the Board.

DOSD HR Report

Noted by the Board.

DOSD Buildings Report

Noted by the Board.

DOSD Risk Update

Director of OSD indicated that currently the single greatest risk to the LWETB is the vacant Director of Schools, Youth and Music post.

General Updates

The CE informed the meeting, regarding the Director of Schools, Youth and Music post, having met with the Secretary General, Department of Education and Youth (DEY) last week, DEY have indicated that the Department of Public Expenditure have not sanctioned the budget for the post and most likely will not sanction this post until November 2026.

The Board expressed their concern and frustration at this, and noted the risk posed by a vacancy at this level for such an extended period.

7. Members Business

7.1 Motions

None for this meeting.

8. Any Other Business

8.1 Any Other Business

None for this meeting.

8.2 Meeting Date

The Chairperson noted the date for next meeting is Tuesday 16th June at 6.30pm. This meeting will be held in Mullingar.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 7.05 p.m.

Signature of Presiding Chairperson: _____

Dated: _____